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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/911,551	07/23/2001	Jeffrey P. Callister	687-470	4767

7590 12/27/2007
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EXAMINER

BROWN, MICHAEL A

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3772

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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12/27/2007

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/911,551

Applicant(s)

CALLISTER ET AL. CT

Examiner

Michael Brown

Art Unit

3772

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTHS OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12, 15-24, 26-33, 35-57, 59-66 and 68-72 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12, 15-24, 26-33, 35-57, 59-66 and 68-72 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____.
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____.
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- ☐ Other: ____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-12, 15-24 and 43-57, 59-66, 68-72 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kaplan '348 in view of Mariant '027, along with Phelps '259.

Kaplan discloses in figures 1-6C a device for treating an enlarging body lumens that anticipates a device for occluding a body lumen passageway comprising a tubular member 4, having a first end and a second end (fig. 1A), one end is open (1B), a lumen extending therein 12, to the open end, which is expandable in the body lumen from a first configuration with a first transverse dimension to a second larger configuration with a second larger dimension (col. 3, lines 11-16), the tubular member includes an open framework structure (the openings in the tubular member provide an open framework), a fibrous member (14, 16), made of polymeric material (col. 11, lines 18-21), fibrous member is woven strands (col. 7, lines 30-33), of biocompatible material (col. 11, lines 18-20), connected to the tubular member (fig. 1B), the fibrous material is disposed within the lumen (fig. 1B), in a plurality of section (fig. 1A), at a first end (fig. 1A), the tubular member is made of stainless steel (col. 5, lines 10-14), the tubular member

includes anchoring members (col. 5, lines 48-50), to secure the tubular member to the walls of a body lumen, the tubular member expands from a first configuration to a second larger configuration by release of radially compressive force, the tubular member is formed of a superelastic material (col. 3, lines 11-15), the second configuration of the tubular member has a radially expandable diameter which increase along at least a section thereof from the first end of the tubular member to the second end of the tubular member (col. 3, lines 11-16), the tubular member has a lattice framework (2A), the lattice framework is thin-walled metallic tube having a pattern of cuts 10, along the tubular member, the framework includes a braid of wire (a helical strand woven into the tubular member, col. 3, lines 23-26), helical coil (col. 5, lines 55-58), the tubular member is configure to promote epithelialization (col. 7, lines 52-66), tissue growth (col. 7, lines 52-66), capable of provoking an inflammatory response (col. 8, lines 55-58), through copper (which is old and well known in the art), the inflammatory material is radioactive (col. 5, lines 18-21) and the tubule member has an open wall structure (fig. 1A). However, Kaplan doesn't disclose the fibrous material being bundled strands. Mariant teaches in figures 1-6 an occlusion device comprising fibers 12 that are in bundles (col. 5, lines 12-16) and the fibers permit tissue growth (col. 5, lines 45-51). It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time that the invention was made that the fibers as taught by Mariant could be substituted for the fibers disclosed by Kaplan in order to permit tissue growth into the tubular member. The fibers could be bundles as taught by Kaplan. The fibrous material is porous (nylon) as taught by Mariant. The fibrous material can be coated to promote tissue growth and

the transverse dimensions of the strands is a design choice. Phelps teaches in figures 1-6C a fibrous member that is a mesh 130. The fibrous mesh as taught by Phelps could be used to allow for epithelia ingrowth from the wall of the reproductive body lumen into the fibrous mesh member around and inside of the tubular open framework to occlude a body lumen. The mesh member can be located within the tubular member as taught by Phelps. The device could be used to permanently occlude the reproductive body lumen. The device could be used to prevent the passage of reproductive cells through the lumen. The fibrous members as taught by Mariant are made of nylon and Dacron which are permeable materials. Phelps teaches the mesh being longitudinally disposed along at least a section of an outer surface of the tubular member.

Claims 26-27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the references as applied to claims above, and further in view of Phelps '259.

Phelps '259 teaches in figures 1-5an occluding device comprising a plug attached to fibers (col. 3, lines 15-20). The plug is capable of provoking inflammatory response. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time that the invention was made that the plug as taught by Phelps could be used to provide an inflammatory response to stimulate tissue growth, while at the same time occluding the fallopian tube.

Claims 28-33 and 35-42 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kaplan in view Mariant, along with Phelps.

Kaplan discloses in figures 1-6C a device for treating body lumens that anticipates a contraceptive, substantially as claimed, as set forth above. Mariant teaches in figures

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1-6 an occluding device comprising fibers to promote tissue growth. Phelps teaches in figures 1-5 fibers formed as a mesh. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time that the invention that the fibers as taught by Mariant could be formed as a mesh as taught by Phelps in order to allow tissue growth in the lumen and around the tubular member. Note: Kaplan discloses a catheter (col. 10, lines 35-38) used to insert the tubular member.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Michael Brown whose telephone number is 571-272-4972. The examiner can normally be reached on 5:30 am-4:00 pm Monday-Thursday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Patricia Bianco can be reached on 571-272-4940. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Michael A. Brown/
December 16, 2007